Statement

Details of casualties due to Pak firing in Siachen Glacier/LOC/IB in J&K: January to October 1997

Sector	*Army*		*BSF*		*Civil*	
	K	*W*	*K*	*W*	*K*	*W*
Siachen Glacier	*02*	*25*	—	—	—	—
LOC	*12*	*59*	—	*4*	*27*	*44*
IB	*2*	*11*	*2*	*8*	*8*	*20*
Total	**16**	**95**	**2**	**12**	**35**	**64**

K :Killed
W :Wounded

Involvement of Cops-customs Officials in Smuggling

*18. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem which appeared in the Indian Express dated 8th September, 1997 under the heading "Cops, Customs involved in smuggling"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what action Government have taken to unearth the racket at the airport?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the report furnished by Delhi Police, a vigilance inquiry was conducted into the allegation made by the complainant police official (referred to in the news-item) that the police officers posted at the airport indulged in smuggling activity but the complainant did not join the inquiry despite six summons having been issued to him. It has further been reported that the said police official was in the habit of levelling false allegations against his superior officers and that he has since been dismissed from service on the grounds of misbehaviour and insubordination.

Service Tax on Private Bus Operators

*19. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD: DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 'Tour Operators' within the meaning of the Motor Vehicles Act and the private bus operators presently plying buses on thousands of routes are the same or they are juridically different;

(b) if so, the position of the levy of the service tax vis-a-vis the tour operators and the private bus operators;

(c) whether this matter was discussed with the representatives of the bus operators recently and some clarification was issued; and

(d) what steps are being taken to rationalise these juridical difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) The meaning of the 'Tour Operator' and the private bus operators are juridically different within the ambit of the Motor vehicles Act, 1988.

(b) Service tax is not payable by all vehicles which carry passengers but, is only in respect of services rendered by tour operators who holds a tourist permit under the rules made under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

(c) The Maharashtra Rajya Truck Tempo Bus Vahatuk Mahasangh (MRTTBVM), Mumbai have demanded withdrawl of service tax on Tour Operators. It has been represented by them that this service tax is applicable to all kinds of vehicles carrying any kind of passenger and that majority of the persons engaged in this service will not be able to register, collect and pay service tax as they are mostly illiterate. They have not made any suggestion.

(d) The procedure for collection and payment of service tax is simple and no separate records are required to be maintained by a service tax assessee for the purpose of assessment.

Registration of Vehicles by RTOs

*20. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that passenger vehicles having capacity of more than 12 seats cannot be registered by the RTOs in the name of an individual but have to be registered in the name of trusts, societies or companies;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and if not, the factual position in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that some RTOs are not registering such vehicles in individual names; and

(d) if so, what steps will be taken to inform the general public about the actual situation?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no restriction on registration of a passenger vehicle having capacity of more than 12 seats in the name of an individual.

(c) No such instances have been brought to the notice of this Ministry. (d) Does not arise.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS SET FOR THE 19th NOVEMBER, 1997

दिल्ली में ओ०बी० नम्बर जारी होने के बाद टेलीफोन लगाया जाना

1. **श्री रामगोपाल यादव:** क्या **संचार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) 31 अक्तूबर, 1997 तक दिल्ली में टेलीफोन कनेक्शन के लिये कितने आवेदकों को ओ०बी० नम्बर जारी किया गया है;

(ख) क्या आवेदकों को ओ०बी० नम्बर जारी किये जोन के बाद टेलीफोन कनेक्शन दिये जाने की कोई समय सीमा है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और क्या इस समय सीमा पर कार्य रूप में अमल किया जाता है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो क्या ओ०बी० नम्बर जारी किये गये सभी आवेदकों को समय सीमा के अनुसार टेलीफोन कनेक्शन दिया जा चुका है; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं और उपभोक्ताओं को कब तक टेलीफोन कनेक्शन दिया जायेगा?

संचार मंत्री (श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा): (क) दिल्ली टेलीफोन्स में 1.4.97 से 31.10.97 की अवधि में 46501 ओ बी जारी की गई हैं।

(ख) और (ग) जी हां। टेलीफोन कनेक्शन, ओ बी जारी होने के 15 दिन के भीतर संस्थापित कर दिये जाने चाहिए और उन्हें चालू कर दिया जाना चाहिए। इस समय-सीमा का अनुपालन करने के सभी प्रयास किए जाते हैं और लगभग 72 प्रतिशत टेलीफोन, ओ बी जारी करने के 15 दिन के भीतर प्रदान कर दिए जाते हैं।

(घ) और (ङ) ओ बी जारी होने के 15 दिन की निर्धारित अवधि के भीतर टेलीफोन कनेक्शन प्रदान करने के प्रयास किए जाते हैं। तथापि, कुछेक मामलों में, निम्नलिखित कारणों से, टेलीफोन कनेक्शन प्रदान नहीं किए जा सके:

(i) कुछेक पॉकेटों में केबल पेयर या एक्सचेंज क्षमता उपलब्ध न होने के कारण उनका तकनीकी रूप से व्यवहार्य न होना।

(ii) अत्यधिक मात्रा में रिलीज (बल्फ रिलीज) के समय अत्यधिक कार्यभार बढ़ जाना।

(iii) कई बार उपभोक्ताओं की ओर से कमी होने के कारण।

उन सभी उपभोक्ताओं को 31.3.98 तक उत्तरोत्तर रूप से टेलीफोन कनेक्शन प्रदान कर दिए जाएंगे जिन्हें 31.10.97 तक ओ बी जारी कर दी गई है।

Waiting List of Telephone Connections for General Category Registrants in Rourkela

2. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to answer to